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UNC CHARLOTTE

THE MAGAZINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHARLOTTE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

Freedom
to Speak

Freedom to Learn

Freedom to Disagree

Free Speech
what are the limits?



Dear alumni and friends of UNC Charlotte,

For 16 years, it has been my pleasure to share my thoughts through this column. As we go to press, my retirement draws near – and while I will miss the daily connection with UNC Charlotte, I look forward to pursuing other interests that have been delayed. Even so, I will follow the growth and progress of our university with keen interest as my successor, Phil Dubois, begins his chancellorship. Undoubtedly, even greater success is on the horizon for alumni, friends, faculty, staff, students and donors whose time and talent have strengthened our institution.

Clearly, UNC Charlotte has evolved in dramatic fashion since its founding. Today, we are known as a research-intensive university, with a full complement of doctoral programs, research initiatives and expert faculty engaged in a wide variety of activities. Impressive as this may be, UNC Charlotte has much to accomplish to achieve its rightful position as a research-extensive university – a designation that will bring greater funding and recognition that will enhance our competitiveness with peer institutions.

Achieving this classification is critical for several reasons. Most importantly, it will allow UNC Charlotte to continue to generate the intellectual capital needed to support the social, cultural and economic well-being of Charlotte-Mecklenburg and its surrounding counties, as well as for the wider region and the state. In addition, designation as a research-extensive university will forge a much stronger bond with the city of Charlotte and the State of North Carolina, leading to more partnerships and collaborative opportunities. Given that UNC Charlotte serves the largest city in both Carolinas, it is imperative that our institution achieve this goal to meet the growing needs of business and industry, and to attract and retain the best faculty for our students.

Certainly, this topic has been the subject of much discussion among university colleagues and elected officials. One of the hallmarks of a university environment is the freedom of speech that leads to the sharing of new – and sometimes radical – ideas. As you'll read on page 10, UNC Charlotte prides itself on fostering an atmosphere for healthy discourse on myriad issues. Sharing knowledge, however, is not limited to the campus proper; technology is now making distance education as common as a fixed classroom, bridging the need for convenience and access for a growing number of students (see page 16). Still, distance education in the traditional sense is very much alive, as you'll discover with Professor Mark West on page 14. His travels to Great Britain add a new dimension to his teaching of children's literature, combining the history and culture of childhood with timeless classics.

Our success to date – and our future success as well – is made possible by the ongoing support of donors who believe in UNC Charlotte and our goal to become a research-extensive university. Thanks to all of you, we took a gigantic step forward by surpassing our \$100 million goal for the *It Takes a Gift* capital campaign. As of June 21, we had already raised \$115 million, and that number will be even higher once accounting is completed following the official campaign end-date of June 30.

This level of success is just one indicator of UNC Charlotte's rising stature. To garner such support among the private sector is indeed gratifying, and I step down with nothing but the highest admiration for the many people who are dedicated to making UNC Charlotte the very best. It has been my privilege and honor to serve as chancellor, and I will remain its staunchest supporter. Thank you for your leadership, friendship and support – and for your continued commitment to our university.

Sincerely yours,

James H. Woodward
Chancellor



UNCC[®]CHARLOTTE

Volume 13, Number 1

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
AT CHARLOTTE

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*Everybody's talking about first amendment rights on campus.
See what they're saying on pg. 18*



Dubois named fourth chancellor

Former provost returns to UNC Charlotte

Philip L. Dubois, president of the University of Wyoming and former UNC Charlotte provost, was named the university's fourth chancellor by the UNC Board of Governors. Dubois, 54, will assume his new duties July 15, succeeding James Woodward, who is retiring after 16 years.

Dubois received his undergraduate degree in political science from the University of California, Davis, earning election to the Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Beta Phi honor societies. He earned master's and doctoral degrees in the field from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he was a Ford Foundation Fellow and received the American Political Science Association's Edward Corwin Award for the best doctoral dissertation in the field of public law.

Dubois began his academic career in 1976 at the University of California, Davis, as an acting assistant professor of political science. Over the next 15 years, he rose through the faculty and administrative ranks to full professor and held various administrative posts, including associate vice chancellor for academic affairs and executive associate dean of the College of Letters and Science. In 1982, he received the university's Magnar Ronning Award for Teaching Excellence.

In 1991, Dubois was recruited to UNC Charlotte, where he spent the next six and a half years as provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs. Dubois was credited with drafting a strategic academic plan, leading the development of the university's first comprehensive campus-wide plan for information technology, and initiating programs to better serve nontraditional adult students. UNC Charlotte also planned and launched its first doctoral programs, began the delivery of off-campus instruction at Uptown Charlotte, and instituted initiatives to improve faculty retention and working conditions for academic families.

In 1997, Dubois was named president of the University of Wyoming, a 13,000-student doctoral/research-extensive university that conducts nearly \$55 million of sponsored research annually. As president, he has led the development of comprehensive academic, support services and capital plans for the campus; overseen a growing volume of capital construction; expanded UW's role in statewide



Retiring Chancellor James Woodward congratulates his successor Philip Dubois and his wife, Lisa, at a campus reception on March 18, 2005.

economic development, and improved the recruitment and retention of students. During his eight-year tenure, state and federal legislative support has increased significantly, while private gifts to the university have more than quadrupled. A \$125-million fund-raising campaign scheduled for completion June 30 has topped \$134 million, and the Wyoming legislature has committed another \$58 million in state matching funds. The number of individual donors to UW has increased by more than 50 percent.

Dubois' teaching and research have centered on judicial selection, court reform and election campaign financing. A member of the Association of Governing Boards' Council of Presidents, Dubois also serves on the National Collegiate Athletics Association's Division I Board of Directors. A past chair of the American Council on Education's Commission on Leadership and Institutional Effectiveness, he was honored in 2004 by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) with its District VI Chief Executive Leadership Award.

Dubois and his wife, Lisa Lewis Dubois, have three children: Logan, 21, a 2005 accounting graduate from Penn State University; Taylor, 18, a sophomore at Penn State; and Ali, 14, a 10th-grader.

Woodward rides off into the sunset

Bestselling forensic crime author and UNC Charlotte adjunct professor Kathy Reichs surprised retiring UNC Charlotte Chancellor James Woodward his last week at work with the news that she has dedicated her latest novel *Crossbones* to him. As a token, she gave him a black leather jacket decorated with cross bones. The two had fun on a Harley-Davidson motorcycle during the announcement, with Woodward reminiscing about his earlier adventures on a Harley.



Arizona vice provost named new College of Arts and Sciences dean



Nancy Gutierrez, vice provost for academic affairs and English professor at Arizona State University (ASU), has been named dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. She succeeds Schley Lyons, who is retiring after 20 years.

Gutierrez will oversee 21 departments and seven interdisciplinary programs in the College of Arts and Sciences, the largest of the university's seven colleges. The college currently enrolls nearly 8,500 students and employs 435 full-time faculty members.

Gutierrez previously served as ASU's associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and chair of the Department of English. She also was an assistant professor in the English, classics and philosophy department at the University of Texas at San Antonio and taught English at the University of Cincinnati. In her administrative role at ASU, she oversees faculty recruitment and retention, and has been a leader in programmatic innovation and research excellence.

Gutierrez received her bachelor's degree in English from Denison University in Granville, Ohio. She received her master's and doctoral degrees in English from the University of Chicago.

Lawyer-psychologist named executive director for the Institute for Social Capital

Sharon Portwood has been named executive director for The University of North Carolina at Charlotte Institute for Social Capital (ISC), Inc. She also will serve as a professor in the Department of Health Behavior and Administration at the university.

The non-profit ISC positively impacts community growth and development by better using social and human service data and making it available for applied academic research and overall community improvement.

Portwood currently serves as an associate professor of psychology and the associate department chair of psychology at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. She also is the program director at the Kansas City Metro Child Traumatic Stress Program, which is part of the National Child Traumatic Network. Portwood is president of the American Psychological Association's Section on Child Maltreatment and was a practicing trial attorney for more than 10 years.

Portwood received her law degree from the University of Texas and her doctorate in psychology from the University of Virginia.



Amanda Butler named head women's basketball coach



Amanda Butler, a four-year veteran of the Charlotte 49ers' coaching staff, has been named the head women's basketball coach. Butler has played an integral role in the program's turnaround over the past four seasons. The past two, she has served as associate

head coach to Katie Meier, overseeing the guards as well as scheduling, recruiting and scouting.

During her tenure on the 49ers coaching staff, the program has made three straight postseason appearances for the first time in school history and compiled 76 wins, four winning seasons and two 20-win campaigns.

Before coming to UNC Charlotte, Butler was an assistant coach at Austin Peay and the University of Florida.

A graduate of the University of Florida, Butler earned a bachelor's degree in exercise science and a master's in sports management.

Butler succeeds Meier, who has accepted the head coaching position at the University of Miami.

Charlotte author donating papers to UNC Charlotte

Charlotte native Gail Haley, the only author awarded both the American and British medals for best children's picture book of the year, has donated the medals and her drawings, manuscripts and other papers to UNC Charlotte.

Haley won the American Caldecott medal for "A Story A Story" in 1971 and the British Kate Greenaway medal for "The Post Office Cat" in 1976. She said UNC Charlotte was the best home for her papers, given her Charlotte roots and the university's strength in children's literature studies.

She worked nearly two years on the illustrations for "A Story A Story," trying various techniques on a small printing press she had bought in New York. That press is on loan to the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County but will eventually come to the university.

UNC Charlotte establishes real estate research center

Real estate industry leaders from Charlotte and throughout North Carolina have raised nearly \$2 million to launch a real estate research center at UNC Charlotte. The Center for Real Estate will focus on research topics of concern to the industry and will expand the real estate programs at UNC Charlotte through additional courses, scholarships, internships and executive education.

Steven Ott, the John Crosland Sr. distinguished professor of real estate in the Belk College of Business, will serve as the center's director. Ott was recruited to UNC Charlotte in 1999 from the University of Kentucky to create a real estate curriculum in the Belk College. He developed an academic concentration in the MBA program, which currently enrolls 35 students, and formed an advisory board of industry leaders to assist with program development and student recruitment and placement.

Ott and his graduate students have already conducted several real estate-related research projects, including a study on transit-oriented development and another on mixed-use projects. A future project will study the effect of land planning regulations on real estate values and development timing.

High-tech, cyber café opens in library

In addition to checking out books and studying, students at Atkins Library can enjoy a special feature – a coffee shop. The new shop, located on the ground level, features gourmet coffee, desserts, sandwiches, soups, salads and a cyber café. Caffè Ritazza is managed by the Charlotte-based Compass Group, which has more than 200 locations worldwide. The university's first Caffè Ritazza is located on the first floor of the Fretwell Building. The newest Caffè Ritazza is the first known sit-down coffee spot to open inside a North Carolina university library.

University to expand Charlotte uptown presence

Professionals and residents living and working uptown will have even more opportunities to pursue UNC Charlotte graduate and undergraduate education when a new classroom building is constructed in center city.

The Foundation for The University of North Carolina at Charlotte Inc. has secured funding for property on the corner of Brevard and Ninth streets where the university plans to build a major new classroom building. Five stories high, the facility will have about 100,000 net square feet for classrooms, lectures halls, computer labs and offices. Classes offered in the new building will range from business and social services to architecture and the humanities.

The university has requested an appropriation from the state legislature to construct the building. No construction date has been set.

UNC Charlotte established an uptown presence in 1995. To date, 633 classes have been offered to a total enrollment of 14,709. During the 2004-2005 academic year, the center offered 68 classes with a total enrollment of 1,379. Currently, the university occupies 13,000 net square feet in the Mint Museum of Craft + Design, and will continue in that space until the new building is constructed.

New doctoral programs meet demand of health care industry

This fall, UNC Charlotte students will be able to pursue two new graduate degrees, one in health services research and the other in health psychology.

The field of health services research, which has grown in national importance, studies the financial systems, health technologies, organizational structures, personal behaviors and social factors that affect health care. Professors from departments across campus will serve as faculty. Students graduating with this degree will be prepared to evaluate health care costs, health outcomes and health care utilization in individuals and populations.

The university's doctoral program in health psychology will be the first in the University of North Carolina system. Given the rise of behavior-related health problems, such as diabetes, obesity and heart disease, the need for competent health psychologists is critical. The interdisciplinary program will be housed in the Department of Psychology but also will involve the colleges of Education and of Health and Human Services. The program will focus on general health psychology, clinical health psychology and community health psychology. Students pursuing this degree will examine the treatment and prevention of physical and mental illnesses and the promotion of health and wellness.

UNC Charlotte establishes center of excellence in cyber security

Building on its international reputation for expertise in privacy and security, UNC Charlotte has established the Information Security and Assurance Center.

Yuliang Zheng, professor of information technology and an internationally renowned authority in cyber security, will direct the interdisciplinary ISAC.

The center helps educate and train information security and assurance professionals, and assist industry, governments and the community in protecting and assuring information assets. Faculty members conduct research with industry and government partners, and collaborate with peers throughout the world. Ultimately, they will transfer and commercialize technology developed at the ISAC.

Research includes identity management, Internet scale intrusion prevention and suppression, next-generation cryptography, secure electronic commerce and Web services security. The National Science Foundation, National Security Agency, Microsoft Research, Bank of America and Wachovia are among the research programs' sponsors.

UNC Charlotte helps put technology innovations to work

Over past five years, Office of Technology Transfer has initiated 20 start-up businesses

UNC Charlotte's Office of Technology Transfer is one of the country's best in putting intellectual capital to work. According to the most recent annual survey conducted by the Association of University Technology Managers, in 2003 UNC Charlotte ranked first in the nation per \$10 million of research expenditures in forming start-up companies, first in filing patents, second in inventions reported and third in patents issued and fourth in licenses/options executed.

UNC Charlotte has a strong commitment to economic development that has resulted in the formation of companies, jobs and addition of millions of dollars to the local economy.

Olympic hopeful named Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports Scholar of the Year

An athlete, a scholar and a community volunteer, Sharonda Johnson has been honored by Black Issues in Higher Education magazine as the Arthur Ashe Jr. Female Sports Scholar of the Year.

Johnson, a senior chemistry major, was featured in the April 7, 2005 issue.

Award nominees must compete in an intercollegiate sport, maintain a cumulative minimum grade-point average of 3.2 and be active on their college/university campus or in their community.

Johnson, a Raleigh native, maintains a 3.8 cumulative grade-point average and holds the school record in both indoor and outdoor triple jump. She is UNC Charlotte's first athlete to become an All-American and an Academic All-American.

In addition to her athletic accomplishments, Johnson volunteers for the Red Cross, has been a Kidney Walk participant and has devoted time to the Police Athletic League by tutoring middle and high school students. She hopes to participate in the 2008 Olympics in the triple jump competition.

Mark Clemens honored for liver disease research, organ preservation

First Citizens Bank recognizes professor with highest merit for scholarship and intellectual inquiry



Honoree Mark Clemens, far right, is congratulated by colleagues.

Patients die every day from multiple system failure, as organs such as the liver cannot overcome the shock of bacterial infections and other traumas. UNC Charlotte professor and past chair of biology Mark Clemens – an expert in liver physiology – is working to change that.

In light of his research advancements on liver disease and the preservation of organs, Clemens received the 2005 First Citizens Bank Scholars Medal. The award is UNC Charlotte's highest honor for faculty scholarship and intellectual inquiry.

Clemens ranks as one of the top scientists at UNC Charlotte for obtaining research dollars. His research is funded by \$5.25 million in National Institutes of Health (NIH) grants as well as funding from the Whitaker Foundation. He also collaborates on a variety of NIH, National Science Foundation and Whitaker Foundation projects.

A UNC Charlotte faculty member since 1996, Clemens has taught at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and the University of Maryland School of Nursing. He also served as a research scientist at Yale University School of Medicine. He earned a bachelor's degree in physical therapy and a doctorate in physiology from St. Louis University and was a postdoctoral fellow at Yale.



Board of Trustees Chairman Howard Bissell, Chancellor James Woodward, DSA recipient Herman Thomas and UNC Charlotte Foundation Chairman Russell Robinson celebrate Thomas' recognition in April, 2005.

Herman Thomas honored with Distinguished Service Award

Don't tell Herman Thomas one person can't make a difference. As a high school student, he was involved in one of the earliest efforts to desegregate a public school in Swain County. As an undergraduate at N.C. A&T State University, Thomas played a part in the Woolworth sit-ins. And while a professor at UNC Charlotte, he founded the University Transitions and Opportunities Program to help students successfully adapt to their new college environment.

In April, Thomas was recognized with the UNC Charlotte 2005 Distinguished Service Award for his personal commitment to educational opportunity for all students. The annual award, presented by the UNC Charlotte Board of Trustees and Foundation Board of Directors, is the university's highest recognition for individuals whose exemplary career service has advanced the university and its mission to serve the state and the metropolitan region.

Throughout his professional career, Thomas has been deeply involved in his community. He currently serves as associate minister and minister of Christian Education at First Baptist Church-West. Additionally, he is chairman emeritus, founding board member and member of the board of directors of the Afro-American Cultural Center. He also is a founding president of the Charlotte Chapter, Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Charlotte's Pride Magazine honored Thomas as Citizen of the Year in 1999 and as one of Charlotte's 47 Most Influential African American Leaders in 2002.

After 29 years at UNC Charlotte, Thomas joined Shaw University last July as acting vice president for academic affairs.

UNC Charlotte honors longtime education, public supporter with honorary degree

Howard H. Haworth receives Doctor of Public Service during spring commencement



For his support of public and private education, leadership in business and the community, and his commitment to families, UNC Charlotte awarded Howard H. Haworth an honorary Doctor of Public Service degree during the May 14 commencement ceremony.

Haworth has a long history of national, state and local service. He currently serves on the boards of directors of Bassett Furniture Industries in Bassett, Va., and for the national home furnishings retailer Robb & Stucky in Ft. Myers, Fla. An emeritus member or chairman of a number of non-profit, corporate and government boards, Haworth

also is on the board of trustees for Communities in Schools of Charlotte and on the Education Institute Advisory Board for the Blumenthal Performing Arts Center. He is vice chairman for The University of North Carolina at Charlotte Institute for Social Capital, Inc. and is an appointee to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Education Budget Advisory Committee.

One of 10 North Carolina Rhodes Scholarship competition nominees in 1957, Haworth was named to the Guilford College Athletic Hall of Fame and received the Guilford College 1984 Alumni Association Distinguished Service Award. The Morganton Rotary Club named him Man of the Year in 1987 and that same year, he received the Guilford College Alumni Excellence award. Former North Carolina Gov. James G. Martin twice honored Haworth with the state's Order of the Long Leaf Pine. The Piedmont Council of Boy Scouts of America presented him with the 1994 Silver Beaver Award for Distinguished Service to Youth.

Among Haworth's many former board involvements are those of UNC Charlotte, The Children's Home Society in Greensboro, N.C. State Board of Education and Guilford College. He also served as N.C. State Secretary of Commerce.

Haworth, who had a 27-year career at Drexel Heritage Furnishings, Inc., served as the firm's president and CEO from 1973 to 1983 and chairman of the board from 1983 to 1985.



Education students learn in new environment

College of Education dedicates new building, March 16

The university officially dedicated the new College of Education Building during an open house and ceremony on March 16. The new building, which stands five stories high and contains 126,431 square feet, was built at a cost of \$16.1 million, financed by the 2000 statewide bond issue. The college offers four doctoral degrees, 17 master's programs and four baccalaureate degrees. Nearly 5,700 graduates of the college currently teach in North Carolina public schools.

Students rub shoulders with Nobel laureates



Douglas Osheroff

An exclusive group of 150 students from universities across the Southeast had an opportunity to meet some of the greatest minds in science during an open discussion with five Nobel laureates who visited the UNC Charlotte campus in March. Hosted by the Charlotte Research Institute at UNC Charlotte and the Echo Foundation with support from Duke Energy and TIAA-CREF, the event allowed the next generation of scientists and innovators to visit in an intimate,

informal setting with award-winners who have made significant scientific achievements. Douglas Osheroff, 1996 Nobel Prize winner in physics, was among those on campus. The others were Günter Blobel, Edmond Fischer and Christine Nusslein-Volhard, 1999, 1992 and 1995 Nobel Prize recipients in physiology or medicine; and Robert Richardson, 1996 Nobel Prize winner in physics. Anders Bärány, senior curator of the Nobel Museum in Stockholm, accompanied the laureates.

Dylan Savage performs to commemorate end of Austria's occupation

In May, when Vienna celebrated the 50th anniversary of the State Treaty that ended the four-power postwar occupation of Austria, assistant music professor Dylan Savage played an important part in the festivities. The U.S. embassy in Vienna chose his invited concert in Bosendorfer Hall as one of its special evening events.

Other noted musicians who have performed in Bosendorfer Hall are Franz Liszt, Anton Rubinstein, Johannes Brahms and Richard Strauss.

First book gains Gwyn national notice

Aaron Gwyn, an assistant English professor at UNC Charlotte since 2003, was one of five nominees for the New York Public Library's prestigious Young Lions Fiction Award for writers age 35 or younger. His award-nominated collection of short stories, "Dog on a Cross," all take place during a two-month religious revival in the fictional town of Perser, Okla. Now, Gwyn is working on Ink, his first full-length novel about a traveling tattoo repairman to be published next spring.

Tabor's excavation chronicled on History Channel

The story of how James Tabor and his students discovered what many believe to be a cave used by John the Baptist aired nationally in March during a two-hour prime-time History Channel special, "The Search for John the Baptist." The History Channel exclusive featured interviews with Tabor, chair of the religious studies department, and one of the students who participated in the excavation of a cave in Israel where they believe John the Baptist baptized many of his followers. It also contained original video footage of several seasons of the dig.

Play therapy important for at-risk children



In the field of counseling, "play therapy" has gained nationwide recognition as an important and useful tool in working with at-risk children. Phyllis Post, a professor of counseling, was trained in this form of psychotherapy often used for learning and addressing emotional problems. She has also written several scholarly articles on play therapy for at-risk children in the elementary school setting. In addition to her academic research, Post is working to develop a center for play therapy at UNC Charlotte. For more information, contact Post at (704) 687-8961.

Too many meetings could be hazardous to your health

Current research has shown that many organizations spend a large amount of time in meetings, often at the expense of the employee's time and well-being. Steven Rogelberg, director of the Industrial and Organizational Psychology program, knows about the positives and negatives of work meetings. He is the author of more than 40 publications addressing issues on organizational research methods, team effectiveness, and health and employee well-being. For additional information, visit Rogelberg's Web site at <http://personal.uncc.edu/sgrojelb/> or contact him at sgrojelb@email.uncc.edu.

Building financial assets key strategy for victims of domestic violence

Every nine seconds a woman is battered in the United States, making this the leading cause of injury to women, according to the American Institute on Domestic Violence. Marcia Shobe, an assistant professor in the Department of Social Work, has some intervention strategies to help resolve or end domestic violence among low-income households. Shobe understands how household economic resources may influence domestic violence for low-income women and has suggestions for ways low-income women can build their financial assets to create a safety net to help end the abuse. For more information, contact Shobe at mshobe@email.uncc.edu.

Senior biology major makes a difference one person at a time

Receives Jamgotch award for improving the human condition



At age 15, when friends, movies and malls are usually priorities for teenagers, Lakeisha Rainey was volunteering at a local nursing home. As a senior biology major, the May graduate continued her work with the Autumn Care Nursing Home in her hometown of Raeford, while she balanced life as a student with other volunteer activities.

Rainey was recognized in April with the Nish Jamgotch Jr. Humanitarian Award for improving the lives of others. The award is given to a UNC Charlotte student who demonstrates creative problem solving, conflict resolution and improvement for the human condition. Rainey, one of four finalists, is the second recipient of the award which carries a \$10,000 cash prize.

At UNC Charlotte, Rainey co-chartered the American Medical Student Association, the first premedical organization at the university. As president, she helped plan events that better prepared students for graduate work. For three years, Rainey was a resident advisor on campus and volunteered at the Charlotte Rescue Mission; the H.E.L.P Store, which provides packages of food and clothes to needy families; and Meals on Wheels of Charlotte.

Additionally, Rainey lobbied to improve pharmaceutical drug coverage for seniors and worked with the Breast Cancer Resource Center in Fayetteville to which she plans to donate some of her award money.

Rainey spent the summer of 2004 in Costa Rica studying Spanish and teaching English as a second language to a small group of healthcare professionals. A chemistry and Spanish minor, she hopes to one day practice internal medicine and geriatrics.

The Nish Jamgotch Jr. Humanitarian Student Award is primarily funded by political science professor emeritus Nish Jamgotch.

Transform: v.t. change in form, appearance or condition

Not since UNC Charlotte's founding have so many goals come to fruition in so brief a time. And so, we celebrate.

We celebrate a new chancellor, who will build upon the accomplishments of three visionary predecessors. We celebrate an impressive array of new facilities. We celebrate the conclusion of a successful fund-raising campaign.

Board of Trustees Chairman Smoky Bissell, who also chaired the *It Takes a Gift* campaign, noted that this was the most ambitious and successful fund-raising initiative in UNC Charlotte's history.

"I'm not sure that anyone in 1946, other than Bonnie Cone, could have envisioned when we opened as a temporary extension center to educate returning WWII veterans, all that we would become. Maybe not even Miss Bonnie herself," said Bissell.

More than 20,000 donors made gifts and commitments of \$116 million and growing – significantly over the campaign goal of \$100 million. Donors established 130 new endowments, which will continue to grow in perpetuity. The top 10 donors gave and committed more than \$49 million. Current and former trustees gave and committed more than \$15 million. Some 872 members of the faculty and staff contributed \$5.6 million. In short, participation was broad as well as deep.

During the seven-year campaign which officially ended June 30, every one of the university's colleges, major programs and initiatives received support. As a result, we have recruited talented new faculty and retained our current strong faculty. We are providing our graduates a well-rounded, liberal arts education that will help them succeed in today's increasingly competitive world. We have built upon the Charlotte region's technology and research base, positioning ourselves for even greater success.

Retiring Chancellor Dr. James Woodward said, "Through this campaign, UNC Charlotte is poised to become a research-intensive university within the next five years. In doing so, it will move into the first rank of major research universities in this state and will greatly stimulate the economic, cultural and educational advancement of this most populous region of the Carolinas."

Together, all the varied members of the greater UNC Charlotte community have shaped what's ahead.



Gifts of more than \$12 million from the Duke Energy Foundation, which supplied the lead gift for the campaign and helped to start the Charlotte Research Institute, will stimulate the Charlotte area economy, generate jobs and create new wealth.

Significant support for the university is coming from throughout the university's extended community. Here's a look at a few of the gifts and commitments from the more than 20,000 donors who participated in the It Takes A Gift Campaign for UNC Charlotte.

UNC Charlotte's acclaimed Model United Nations program received its first endowed gift, a travel-grant program established by **David Alkire**. Earlier in the campaign, Alkire established an endowment for the university's international studies degree program.

The **Joanna Baker Foundation** established a graduate fellowship in the College of Information Technology. The foundation and fellowship are named for the late Joanna Baker, who founded the School of Information Technology (now the College). Leigh Walters '93 heads the foundation.

Irwin Belk, secretary of the UNC Charlotte Board of Trustees, made the lead gift for the university's training and academic center for student athletes, which was built as part of the campaign. The Irene Belk Miltimore and Marilyn Belk Wallace Athletics Training and Academic Center is named in honor of Carol and Irwin Belk's daughters.

The **Belk Foundation**, at the behest of **John M. Belk**, is funding an ambitious expansion of the international business programs in the Belk College of Business. Belk is a former director of the UNC Charlotte Foundation.

Addison Bell '76 is funding the innovative Student Leadership Academy in the William States Lee College of Engineering. Academy themes include introduction to leadership, values and ethics, creation of one's future and community service. Until last month, Bell served on the UNC Board of Governors.

The **Wayland H. Cato Foundation** established an endowed fellowship in the Graduate School. The Wayland H. Cato Jr. Endowed Fellowship will help UNC Charlotte recruit outstanding doctoral students. A former director of the UNC Charlotte Foundation, Cato received an honorary doctorate in 2000.

The campaign's lead gift commitment came from the **Duke Energy Foundation**. The commitment was both the largest in the history of the Duke Energy Foundation and the history of UNC Charlotte. The foundation's total campaign gifts and pledges exceed \$13 million, \$10 million of which supports the Charlotte Research Institute.

Donors established two funds in memory of the late Mary Thomas Burke, professor in the Department of Counseling, Special Education and Child Development who established the College of Education's counseling program and helped design the department's Ph.D. program. An anonymous donor endowed a faculty fellowship, and the university chapter of Chi Sigma Iota honor society established a scholarship, which also is included in the estate plan of **Fay Green**.

The **James J. Harris and Angelia M. Harris Foundation** made the lead gift commitment for the university's new Alumni Center, which will be known as the Harris Alumni Center. The three surviving Harris children are the foundation's trustees. They are Sara H. Bissell, Cameron Morrison Harris and John William Harris.



Nancy Day Hill '81, '92 M.S.N. and **Jim Hill '70, '82 M.Ed.** established an endowed nursing scholarship in the College of Health and Human Services. Both work in health professions, Jim as a physician assistant and Nancy as a nurse. The scholarship is based on financial need and will cover educational expenses such as tuition and books.



In 2004, the university began awarding an annual \$10,000 prize honoring creative achievements and humanitarianism within the student body. The Nish Jamgotch Jr. Humanitarian Award was established by, and

primarily funded with, gifts from professor emeritus **Nish Jamgotch, Jr.**



Architectural designers **Kevin Kelley '87** and **Terry Shook '76** created the first alumni-established, alumni-funded, endowed scholarship in the College of Architecture. Talented and deserving fifth-year architecture majors are eligible for the Shook Kelley Design Scholarship.

James W. Kirk '81 has included the university in his estate planning. Rather than being designated for a particular cause, his bequest will provide unrestricted support, which is always critically important to provide vital operating support and funding flexibility. Kirk is a former member of the Alumni Board of Governors.



Anco Prak, a professor emeritus of engineering at North Carolina State University, has given UNC Charlotte a collection of well over 400 rare atlases and related geographical works, as well as a financial gift to expand or enhance the collection. The J. Murrey Atkins Library houses the collection.

Honorary trustee **Ruth Shaw** and her husband, **Colin Shaw**, established an endowed fund to recognize teaching excellence and foster the academic careers of UNC Charlotte's junior faculty in the humanities. The Shaws named the fund for Ruth's mother, an inspiring educator.

It Takes A Gift

everybody's TALKING

By Gina Carroll Howard

...and I'll defend to the death your right to say it

Freedom to Speak

Freedom to Learn

"In order to make any progress both personally and professionally, and as a nation, you have to be able to understand and talk with others who do not share the same opinion."

Cameron French



A bit of receding gray hair is all that is visible between students clustered at the base of the Belk Tower. But the impassioned shouts of damnation are unmistakable. Gary Birdsong is back.

“The problem with mankind is sin,” bellows the intense, black-suited itinerate preacher, who specifically targets sorority “whores” and homosexual “abominations” with his message of a wrathful God.

Birdsong trails students as they return to campus, as surely as the swallows return to Capistrano. For 20 years, Birdsong has wandered from campus to campus delivering his hell-fire-and-brimstone message to passersby.

While some students ignore Preacher Gary, others yell back. Some are visibly shaken and want him banned from campus.

That’s unlikely to happen.

About 10 feet from Birdsong stands a granite monument: “Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.”

The First Amendment.

Freedom to speak

The First Amendment guarantees all Americans the right to speak their minds, even if their views are upsetting, abhorrent or just plain wrong.

Freedom of speech – and of dissent – is what higher education is all about, affirms Michele Howard, dean of students.

“It’s the foundation of higher education. Whether in the classroom, at the Belk Tower or through sponsored speakers, we attempt to create forums and mechanisms for dialog, for people to share differing viewpoints,” Howard says.

Outgoing Student Government Association vice president Adam Bridgers says it’s also at the heart of a democracy.

“I’m a constitutionalist,” the junior political science major says. “The powers invested in the people by the constitution should be upheld. They protect us as Americans in a democracy.”

To allow all voices to be heard and to avoid disrupting classroom activities, certain areas on campus have been designated for people – affiliated with the university or not – to speak their minds. The Belk Tower is the most visible of these. The others are the Cone University Center Plaza, the Residence Hall Cafeteria Plaza, Holshouser and Scott plazas, and the Amphitheater. Regulating the place, as well as the time and manner that views are expressed was affirmed by the Supreme Court in 1983 (*Perry Education Association v. Perry Local Educators’ Association*).

Speakers may say what they choose, but they must do so without sound amplification equipment. They can’t disrupt instructional activities or impede the campus community from going about its normal daily activities. Members of the campus and external communities have the right to speak, but they only may do

“Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.”

The First Amendment



Love and forgiveness are the messages most campus Christian groups share with fellow students. However, Gary Birdsong presents another view, preaching damnation and retribution to students passing the Belk Tower.

so in a civil manner that does not infringe on the rights of others.

Students may protest what Preacher Gary says, for example, but they do not have the right to drown out his voice so that others cannot hear him.

Birdsong may be the most identifiable speaker at the Belk Tower, but he is far from alone. Several years ago, a non-university group took full advantage of its free speech rights. Displaying four-foot posters of aborted fetuses, its in-your-face approach raised calls for the university to shut down the exhibit.

However, the dean of students points out that where there is freedom of speech, there also is freedom of choice – to walk away or around offensive sounds, sights or ideas. She also emphasizes that opinions expressed in any group are personal ones and not endorsed by the university.

“But we must uphold their right to state their views,” Howard insists. “We’re in the business of empowering students to know their rights. I’d hate to think of any time that we would deny that.”

On most weeks, activities around the Belk Tower are more mundane. Vendors hawk cell phone service or fraternities solicit members. Pamphleteers pass out brochures urging the campus to recycle or give blood. And chalked sidewalks remind students to hear about the “liberal bias” in academia or see a free movie.

continued next page



Freedom to disagree

Jamie Duncan '05 says that with many students leaving home for the first time, college is an especially crucial time to exercise free speech and to be exposed to diverse views.

"This is a time when students are coming into their own," points out Duncan, immediate past chair of the College Republicans. "Students come to college and get a bunch of new ideas by meeting people from different walks of life. People really start forming their beliefs at this time."

However, Duncan points out that freedom to speak doesn't mean the freedom to speak without consequences. There's the chance for backlash or debate. And with more than 200 student organizations, over 2,000 faculty and staff members and nearly 20,000 students, there is bound to be a difference of opinion or two.

"People tend not to be comfortable with confrontation, and free speech sometimes creates such situations. Student organizations are finding their voices and creating opportunities to share their values."

Marcia Kennard Kiessling

That was underscored this spring when the College Republicans decided to host its third annual mock affirmative action bake sale with advertised prices based on a "buyer's" gender, race and sexual orientation. The first two years' events had been unremarkable. This year's was not.

At a student senate meeting the week before, dozens of concerned students protested and sought information about the mock bake sale. A subsequent forum had about 100 students representing groups as diverse as the Model United Nations, the Black Student Union and the College Democrats. And at a student reception the night before, students from

various ethnicities and points of view approached Chuck Lynch, vice chancellor for student affairs. If they didn't like the viewpoint being expressed, present another one, Lynch recommended.

The students took his advice, setting up tables around the Belk Tower. One student, representing only herself, gave away bologna sandwiches to express her opinion of the College Republicans' perspective.

Turi Plisch, assistant dean of students, said the event was a significant one for UNC Charlotte.

"The College Republicans felt it was an important issue, and they wanted to discuss it," Plisch explains. "They chose a controversial way to do so, but it was a great lesson in free speech. It allowed those who were not happy to join forces and discuss how they wanted to present their views. I don't know if those discussions would have taken place if the bake sale had not been allowed."

According to Nathan Shore, chair of the College Republicans, the group decided on the mock bake sale format "to demonstrate how affirmative action was wrong."

Cameron French, president of the College Democrats, says he approached the event with an open mind. "There was a lot of discussion that day, more so than ever before," he notes. "Even if opinions weren't changed, there was education to be gained, and understanding leads to more willingness to compromise."

French, a senior political science major from Philadelphia, thinks the civil discourse between students with opposing viewpoints could serve as a lesson for members of Congress and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School Board, both groups with recent contentious track records.

"In order to make any progress both personally and professionally, and as a nation, you have to be able to understand and talk with others who do not share the same opinion," he suggests.

Katrice Hester, president of the Black Student Union, agrees that the bake sale generated worthy dialogue for the campus, but she found the format offensive. She believes a debate would have shed more light – and engendered less emotion.

"You have a right to present your opinion, but you don't have the right to offend other people when doing it," offers Hester, a senior biology major from Oxford.

Some community members agreed. Marcia Kennard Kiessling, director of student activities, fielded calls from outraged members of the public, who had seen media reports on the mock bake sale. They questioned the university's handling of the event and called for UNC Charlotte to be more involved in setting the direction of student organizations.

"People tend not to be comfortable with confrontation, and free speech sometimes creates such situations," Kiessling contends. "Student organizations are finding their voices and creating opportunities to share their values. With a diverse student body, there is a clash of values. Whereas that may make it uncomfortable at times, if learning and a broadening of perspective is going on, that's really important."

"In order to make any progress both personally and professionally, and as a nation, you have to be able to understand and talk with others who do not share the same opinion."

Cameron French

Freedom to learn

Ted Arrington, professor and chair of the political science department, says activism comes and goes in cycles. It may be the College Republicans that are most active on campus, then the College Democrats, PRIDE (People Recognizing Individual Diversity and Equality) or the Christian Coalition.

It's important to Nurit Janovich, PRIDE president, that she be able to express her perspective, even if it is controversial.

"If we simply use the majority rule to decide which forms and topics of discussion will be allowed, we will quickly get into trouble by repressing a minority that may have 'politically incorrect' opinions," insists Janovich, a senior management information systems major from Raleigh. "It may quickly degenerate into a situation where the political/religious/ethnic/etc. minority is never allowed to stand up for themselves, which smacks of totalitarianism."

However, Janovich admits that it can be very difficult to draw the distinction between controversial opinions and "hate speech." For that reason, the university offers some parameters. It prohibits personally abusive epithets directed towards an individual that, in the context they are used, are commonly known to likely provoke an immediate and violent reaction.

That gray area also is why the Supreme Court found in 1992 (*R.A.V. v. City of St. Paul, Minnesota*) that speech may be regulated on a limited basis, provided it's done in a content-neutral way.

What that boils down to, Arrington says, is not a restriction on what you say, just how you say it: respectfully.

"There's a difference between inciting a riot and people rioting because they don't like what I say," Arrington differentiates. "It's a fine line between trampling on freedom of speech while respecting others."

Using facts – rather than emotion – to present an opinion is key in doing that. Arrington says that sometimes students feel professors or others are attacking their personal views when, in fact, they are trying to spur the students to present a well-reasoned argument.

The Muslim Student Association (MSA) has used facts to diffuse emotional



"How many times a day do you hear any of these statements?" signs posted by members of PRIDE (People Recognizing Individual Diversity and Equality) asked passers by as they protested what they viewed as intolerance that silences lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals.

"There's a difference between inciting a riot and people rioting because they don't like what I say. It's a fine line between trampling on freedom of speech while respecting others."

Ted Arrington

backlash from 9/11 and the war in Iraq. The group invited speakers from the UNC Charlotte Christian and Jewish organizations to a forum to share with them their views of Jesus. The dialogue focused on the three religions' commonalities rather than their differences.

"People should be given the opportunity to listen to more than one side, rather than just the media's, for example," says Ossama Bianouni, president of the MSA and a senior accounting major from Indiana. "And that's where our part as the MSA comes in. We take the responsibility to share our beliefs on many of the news events across the world."

Janovich welcomes the opportunity to hear diverse perspectives.

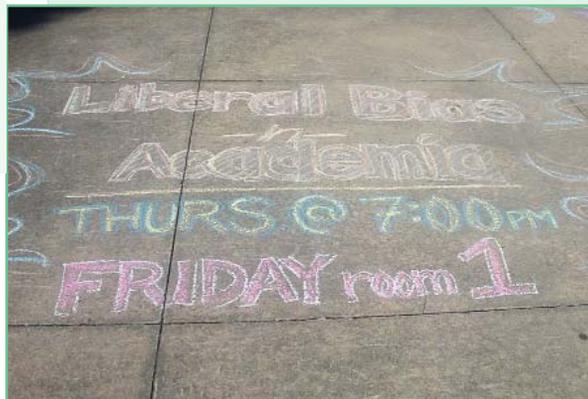
"As a student here, I expect to learn things besides the methods, vocabulary and theories of my major/minor. I should expect to have my boundaries and previous ways of thinking challenged, to hear other viewpoints and to learn about my own beliefs and how I came to have them through critical thinking. Free speech encourages all of those things," she affirms.

The ability to think critically, to form well-reasoned opinions is at the heart of free speech and a democratic government.

"An educated person must be able to evaluate ideas, particularly ideas they don't agree with," Arrington insists. "If they can't do that, we've failed them."

"If we simply use the majority rule to decide which forms and topics of discussion will be allowed, we will quickly get into trouble by repressing a minority that may have 'politically incorrect' opinions."

Nurit Janovich



Chalkings transform sidewalks into sprawling bulletin boards that urge students to vote, remind them to support athletics and entice them to attend free lectures and entertainment events.



Puppeteer turned professor discovers inspiration behind children's books

By Jemi Johnson

"I will always remember playing Poohsticks at the real Pooh bridge or climbing around Tintagel Castle where my young son would wear a King Arthur costume."

Mark West



Teacher, researcher, theorist – these are some of the words people typically use when describing a professor. Puppeteer and adventurer usually do not come to mind. However, Mark West, English professor and associate dean for general education at

UNC Charlotte, could easily be a colorful character from one of the children's books he loves.

West, who has taught children's literature at the university for 21 years, didn't set out to become a puppeteer. In the early 1970s, he attended Antioch College, an experimental college where he was required to serve an internship after his first three months. His decision to work with kids changed the direction of his life. Originally West had intended to go to law school and planned on specializing in legal work on behalf of children. However, he soon realized that he thoroughly enjoyed teaching and nixed that idea.

"Working at a daycare seemed a natural fit for me," says West, "perhaps not a typical job for a male back in the 1970s, but I enjoyed it immensely."

With a degree in early childhood education from Franconia College, West continued to enchant children. As a preschool teacher in Wisconsin, he often used puppets and found that puppetry helped bring the children's imagination to life.

So West became a professional puppeteer.

As he began taking his act on the road, word of his talents spread and his popularity grew. Soon he was in high demand, enthraling children throughout Wisconsin. West performed with wooden marionettes that he carved himself. Like a latter-day Geppetto, he pared personality into his creations with each slice of his knife.

Inspired by his work and love of children's culture, West decided to study the history and culture of childhood. He earned a master's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay and a doctorate in American culture, specializing in children's literature, from Bowling Green State University. That's how he became an adventurer.

In his research, West discovered that just as dreamers incorporate flashes from life into their REM fantasies, children's authors integrate their own real-life situations into their work.

West yearned to find the door to the secret garden and Arthur's castle, so he went to the wellspring. Over several years, he wandered the back roads and quaint villages of Great Britain, scouting the countryside and investigating places that both his wife, Nancy Northcott, and their son, Gavin, would enjoy.

"I have long enjoyed touring authors' homes and other sites related to the lives of authors," West states. "I have often come away from these adventures with new insights into the authors' writings, especially when these sites are incorporated into the settings of their stories."

West tapped his own imagination to coin a term for this form of literary criticism, "geographical criticism," that describes the interconnections of a literary work, the place where the work is set or written and the work's creator.

In "Wellsprings of Imagination," the first compilation of West's tours of authors' homes, he chronicles how some of the best-loved children's books in the English language were set in places where the authors lived. Among these are Louisa May Alcott's "Little Women," Lucy Maud Montgomery's "Anne of Green Gables," and Mark Twain's "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer."

After the book was published, West revisited Great Britain several times. It was during these explorations that he was inspired to write the most recent of his seven books, "A Children's Literature Tour of Great Britain."

West compiled information about the homes and places of 23 children's authors, including Lewis Carroll, Ian Fleming, C.S. Lewis, Beatrix Potter, J.R.R. Tolkien and A.A. Milne. He includes each place's address, admission fee, telephone number and general directions. West describes each author and the significance of each location. He only includes places open to the public with the hope that readers would explore these destinations he found so eye-opening.

"I will always remember playing Poohsticks at the real Pooh bridge or climbing around Tintagel Castle where my young son would wear a King Arthur costume," West recalls.

He reflected on Milne's inspiration for "Winnie-the-Pooh" and "The House at Pooh Corner," so he traveled to Milne's Cotchford Farm near a small village in Hartfield, England, to do research. He found that the Hundred Acre Wood that the author describes so vividly in his books was inspired by the Five Hundred Acre Wood near Milne's old stomping ground. West points out that the public can visit many of the places described in the Pooh books. A good place to begin a "Pooh pilgrimage" is the Ashdown Forest Information Center that provides valuable data for Pooh explorers.

West also visited a pub in Oxford called The Eagle and Child. This pub was a



Photos Courtesy of Nancy Northcott

Locales familiar to authors often play a vital role in their books' creation or settings. Among these (clockwise from top) are The Eagle and Child pub where J.R.R. Tolkien read drafts of "The Hobbit" to C.S. Lewis, Beatrix Potter's home where she imagined Peter Rabbit roaming the garden, Hawes Inn where the central figure is snatched in "Kidnapped" and King Arthur's reputed childhood home, Tintagel Castle.

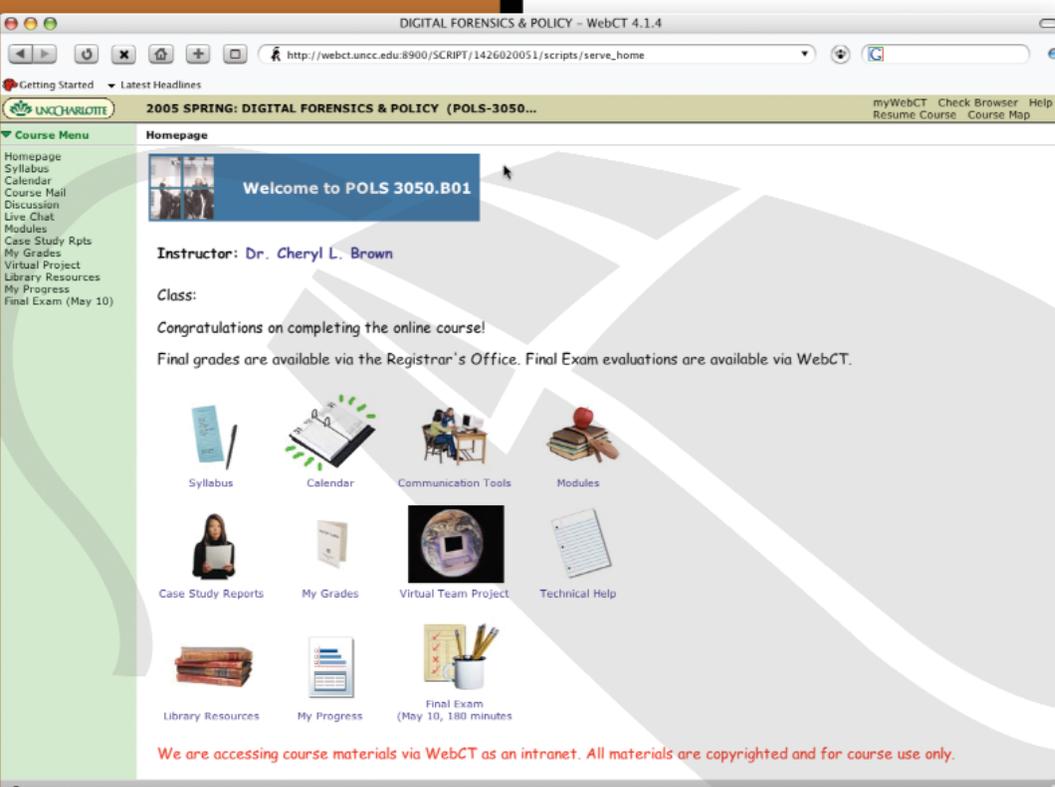
local favorite of authors C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien. As he soon discovered, Lewis and Tolkien met there weekly for drinks and discussion over their works. It was actually at this pub that Tolkien read the initial drafts of "The Hobbit" to Lewis. West also found references of a pub mentioned prominently in "The Lord of the Rings."

As West's friend and fellow professor Peter Hunt points out in the foreword of "A Children's Literature Tour of Great Britain," the experience of stories does not stop at the covers of books. "If you loved children's books – and a great many people love children's books in a way that they do not love adults' books, then to breathe the air that the authors breathed or see the houses that transformed into the works of fiction, is an extension of that love."

That is evident in West's book. Through his own personal journey to Great Britain, he gained a better understanding and deeper appreciation of beloved authors' literary creations.

"Visiting the authors' homes and exploring the environment can be like walking into the pages of a favorite book," West says.

For those who make it across the pond, head to Paddington station and be on the lookout for a small bear. Otherwise, take a literary journey through the pages of imagination.



It was Tuesday, 9:30 a.m., and 22-year-old Lateria Joshae Cherry-Taylor was almost to class. She was running late after trying to squeeze in a little more sleep and some time with her five- and 1½-year-old children. Sleep definitely was at a premium. Cherry-Taylor had gotten home from work at 11:30 the night before, spent a few minutes with her husband, whom she hadn't seen all day, then finished homework. It had been 2:30 a.m. when she finally got to sleep – with a full day ahead of her.

After a morning of classes, Cherry-Taylor headed home for a quick lunch, then it was off to former Sen. John Edwards' office for her internship. She had to report to her regular job at 3 p.m. But first, between classes and lunch, she had a meeting with the virtual team she led for her Global and Intercultural Connections class.

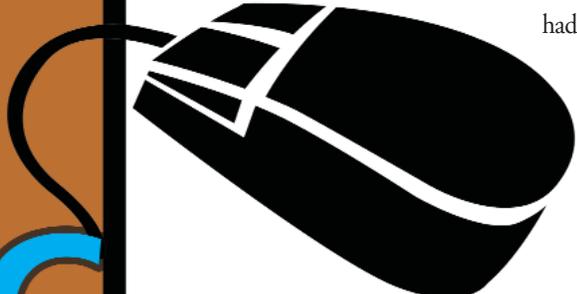
Although this meeting was face-to-face, many of the team's meetings, and meetings held by the team's peers, were not. The course was taught online by Cheryl Brown, associate professor of political science. While Cherry-Taylor was at work, she could communicate with her team during breaks. After work, she continued to help the team dissect their project's overall goal.

This was a typical day last year for Cherry-Taylor '04, a political science graduate. She is thankful she had the opportunity to take classes online. Her daughter had been born prematurely and taking her out of the house risked infection. Online classes enabled Cherry-Taylor to continue her education while caring for her newborn.

Online learning has become more common even among traditional students who live and attend classes on campus. Although non-traditional students are still a large percentage of distance education users, online learning has many practical benefits for traditional students as well.

Through e-learning, students learn about the world from those experiencing it firsthand. Cherry-Taylor's class looked at intellectual property issues. During the class, Stanford University professor Lawrence Lessig led discussions on those issues at Harvard, Oxford and the U.S. Congress. The Internet allowed the students to follow these discussions as they were happening.

"We were right in the midst of each day's events," says Cherry-Taylor. "Congress was discussing and passing laws about



Can you use a mouse to dissect a cat?

By Jodi Wright

cybersquatting, cyberterrorism, spam, online crime and pornography. At the same time, CNN.com and other online newscasts were talking about the same issues. We could see it all and form our opinions.”

Professor Brown says online classes allow faculty and students to integrate knowledge and create more collaborative approaches to learning – through other cultures, disciplines and universities. The excitement Cherry-Taylor felt in learning about events she was living through not only spurred discussions with family and friends, but formulated her career path.

The number of UNC Charlotte online courses and faculty teaching online has more than quadrupled in two years. In the spring of 2003, the university offered 122 online courses. This spring, 541. With enrollment continuing to increase, the university expects that number to continue to climb.

Even basic functions such as posting grades or completing tests or quizzes online have a major impact on traditional classes. Because time during class isn't spent on these administrative functions, students and faculty have more time to interact. To minimize cheating, online quizzes can be timed and randomized. Once a timed quiz has begun, the student has a set amount of time to finish it. This reduces the opportunity for the student to look up or contact someone for answers. Students typically get immediate feedback because the quiz is graded electronically. Another benefit to e-learning is a demonstrated improvement in students' organization and writing skills.

“In a regular class, students are constantly reminded of deadlines,” says Yvette Huet-Hudson, associate professor of biology, who recently began teaching several nursing classes online. “E-learning is good for building organizational skills, the thought process and writing techniques because students must be disciplined to set goals to finish assignments. They also must be able to write clearly and concisely to communicate with the professor and other students.”

Although they may not meet face to face, collaboration, camaraderie and friendships still occur easily. Brown's students have threaded discussions, some assigned and some spontaneous. Participants comment on questions or comments posted to the online discussion board. This creates “threads” of discussion that sometimes continue for years and may consist of thousands of messages in an easy-to-follow conversation.

“Threaded discussions and bulletin boards are places where students and faculty can facilitate discussion and keep it going outside the classroom,” says Lorraine Stanton,

Cheryl Brown's online classes allow faculty and students to integrate knowledge and create more collaborative approaches to learning.



“One thing that I have gained from online classes is real-life work experience”

Lateria Joshae
Cherry-Taylor



manager of e-learning support for the Faculty Center for Teaching and e-Learning. “Discussion happens 24/7, not just before and after class. It can be very time intensive, but it's very rewarding. Students can contribute on their own time, put thought into the topic and post links or additional information. Quieter students tend to participate more.”

Retention rates for students in online classes have increased. Besides offering more sections of popular classes, faculty can monitor student participation – through test scores, length of time the student spends online, log-in times and discussion posts – and see if students understand.

Online learning better prepares many students for their careers. With an increasingly global and diverse workforce, employees must be able to work with teams across the world, across the states or even across the boardroom. This often happens online.

“One thing that I have gained from online classes is real-life work experience,” says Cherry-Taylor, now an agent for Allstate Insurance Company. “I learned how to prioritize assignments, meet deadlines and conduct effective research. On every interview that I had post-graduation, employers wanted to know how I worked in a team environment. Experience in Dr. Brown's class gave me the answer and examples for that question. It even gave them something that set me apart – I was a team leader, like a project manager, meeting virtually.”

Although online learning may not replace many hands-on laboratory projects, it does offer unique benefits. E-learning brings the world to students and puts them in the midst of current events. It provides integrated global learning and cross-disciplinary and cross-cultural viewpoints. Students learn that looking at each part is important but so is exploring how each piece affects the whole.

Brown's students post comments or questions to online discussion boards, creating easy-to-follow conversations.



Suzanne Freeman honored with Distinguished Alumna Award

As a nurse, a mother and an administrator, Suzanne Freeman is the embodiment of service and leadership. UNC Charlotte recognized Freeman's outstanding qualities at its May 14 commencement ceremony

presenting her with the Distinguished Alumna Award.

Created in 1985, the award recognizes an individual chosen from previous inductees selected to the Hall of Fame. It is the highest honor the Alumni Association bestows on a graduate. Selection is based on the nominee's career accomplishments and/or services to the community, state, nation or to UNC Charlotte and its Alumni Association.

Freeman, president of Carolinas Medical Center, has demonstrated a commitment to both her alma mater and the community in which she lives.

A 1975 nursing graduate, Freeman has continued to share her talents with UNC Charlotte. She serves on the executive committee of the university's Alumni Board of Governors and is on the steering committee for the Alumni Association's "Built by Alumni" tile and brick campaign. Previously, she was a member of the former Nursing Advisory Board and more recently served as a member of the Chancellor Search Committee.

A recipient of the Charlotte Business Journal's 2004 Women in Business Achievement Award, Freeman has been a leader in her field. For seven consecutive years, Carolinas Medical Center has been recognized as Charlotte's Most Preferred Hospital by National Research Corporation. She is a member of several professional organizations and serves on the boards of the N.C. Organization of Nurse Executives, N.C. Center for Nursing and Carolinas Home Care.

The mother of three children, Freeman also serves as education chairwoman of the Living Savior Lutheran Church. She also is an active participant in a variety of charities including the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, Children's Miracle Network, United Way, Arts & Science Council and the Foundation for Educational Programs for Mecklenburg-area schools.

Alumni support junior faculty in Woodward's honor

Groups also donate rare books to Atkins



Alumni Association President Rob Richardson (right) presents retiring Chancellor Dr. James Woodward with a check to support the James H. Woodward Faculty Development Fund.

To honor Jim Woodward's distinguished service at UNC Charlotte, the Alumni Board of Governors, its past presidents and the Alumni Association recognized the chancellor with honors close to his heart.

Woodward's keen interest in colonial history and in the world wars is no secret. The alumni groups purchased a two-volume set of rare books and donated them to the Atkins Library Dalton Rare Book Collection in memory of

Woodward's close friend, Jerry Phillip Deweese. The set, *The Life, Adventures, and Opinions of Colonel George Hanger*, is in its original 1801 leather bindings. Hanger, the author, is known for foretelling the Civil War.

Additionally, at a Feb. 25 dinner in Charlotte, Rob Richardson, then president of the Alumni Association, presented Woodward with a \$10,000 check for the James H. Woodward Faculty Development Fund. The fund recognizes and fosters career development of tenure-track, junior faculty members.

GOLDEN GRADS

If you are a graduate from Charlotte College or the earliest UNC Charlotte years, we need you.

UNC Charlotte wants to reach out to all our alumni, *especially* those from our early days.

We are working with grads from those years to locate their fellow "lost" classmates.

For more information or to participate in this important project, please contact:

Jane Starnes '03

**Office of University Development
UNC Charlotte**

9201 University City Blvd

Charlotte, NC 28223-0001

You may also reach Jane at **704-687-2271**
or jestarne@email.uncc.edu.

Go Niners!

1960s

Deaths

Charles Allen Honeycutt '67, died on March 12, 2005 at the age of 77. During his career as an educator, Honeycutt received many teaching accolades, including the Terry Sanford Award for Quality in Teaching, Gaston County Teacher of the Year and District Teacher of the Year. He also received a scholarship to study at the Université de Nice in Nice, France, and the Presidential Fellowship to The Ohio State University – Columbus. Honeycutt retired as the foreign language supervisor for Durham County Public Schools.

1970s

James T. Pearce '73 has received the Yamabiko Award from the Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Georgia for volunteerism and promoting mutual understanding between the Japanese and American people. James, who has been human resources manager for Makita Corporation of America for more than 10 years, is chair of the Human Resource Management Association, a member of the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce. James and Cyndy, his wife of 20 years, have a 17-year-old son, Tommy. The family has lived in the Atlanta area for over 20 years and is active in the First United Methodist Church of Lawrenceville, Ga.

Sheila Snipes Smith '77 achieved national certification from the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards in the area of school counseling. She also was credentialed as a National Board Certified Counselor in 1995. Sheila is department chairwoman and 8th-grade counselor at South Charlotte Middle School in Charlotte. She and her husband, **Edwin Smith '71**, make their home in Charlotte.

Mary Brooks Ellis '78 has been named assistant superintendent of administration of Union County Schools. She assumed her new position on July 1. She and her husband, Jim, live in Fairview.

Morris Moore '79 has been promoted to vice president and assistant treasurer – capital markets for Reynolds American Inc. A certified public accountant in North Carolina, Morris was previously director – financial planning & reporting. He resides in Winston-Salem.

Marriages

Libby (now Libba) Ingram '75 and Natalie Eldridge were married on May 23, 2004. Libba is an instruction designer for Sun Microsystems. The couple resides in Boston with their daughter, Emily, who served as flower girl.

Deaths

Robert Triplett '75 died Jan. 2, 2005. He was self-employed at R.H. Triplett Paint and Wall Covering in Hickory. An experienced hunter and fisherman, he was a member of local, state and national wildlife associations and participated in wilderness adventures in the U.S. and Canada.

1980s

Richard Bryant, Jr. '81, '94 B.S.C.E. is employed with the Department of Defense with Army Special Operations as a project manager. He is directly involved with programming and constructing buildings for Special Operations Command at various posts around the country. Richard also represents the command at an environmental monthly assessment at Fort Bragg. He completed Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Grade I License in 1999 and passed the Engineer in Training in 1993. Richard says he is involved with his church, plays softball and stays busy with car repairs and yard work.

Gwen Hill Ellis '84 of the 5th District ran unopposed in the Bristol, Tenn., Board of Education this year. She and her husband, **Philip Ellis '88**, have lived in Bristol since 1991. Gwen has served as PTA president and on the PTA Council.

Dave Moody '84 and **Carlton Moody '84**, whose achievements as The Moody Brothers have led to national recognition and international acclaim, have earned two

Grammy award nominations and three International CMA Awards. This March, Dave won a 2005 Dove Award in the Spanish Language Album of the Year category for “Te Amos Dios,” on which he performed as part of the PraiseStreet Worship Band. In the past four years, Dave has received nine Dove Award Nominations. Carlton is a regular performer at Disneyland Paris.

Lynn Smith Fritts '85 was named the North Carolina Library Media Specialist of the Year by the N.C. Association for Educational Communications and Technology. Lynn and her husband, **Allen Fritts '85**, make their home in Lexington.

Jeff Dellinger '86 has been appointed managing director of the Fiber Business Unit of Foss Manufacturing. Jeff will be managing the company's global sales and marketing, technical service, customer solutions and business support activities. He makes his home in Waxhaw.

Kurt Wartner '86 has been promoted to plant manager for Gulf States Paper Corporation's Nicholasville, Ky., paper-board packaging plant. Kurt, who joined Gulf States in 1987 as a scheduler for the company's Conover plant, most recently served as plant manager for the company's Joplin, Mo., operation. He and his wife, Gail, have four children and live in Joplin.

Doris Chevalier '87, '04 M.H.A. has been named clinical director at NorthEast Medical Center's Pain Management Center in Concord. Doris will have responsibility for the operations and management of the center. She is a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives and the Medical Group Management Association. Doris, her husband, Cem, and their son, Derya, live in Charlotte.

Debra Rhinesmith-Bossuyt, '88 reports that she has left hospital nursing after 16 years and has begun school nursing and health teaching at Avalon Elementary School in Avalon, N.J. Debra received her School Nurse Certification from Rowan University in Glassboro, N.J. She has three children: Ethan James, 2; Evan, 9; and Erica, 12. Debra says she loves the change of pace.

BOXING BANKER LACES HIS – TAP SHOES

Calvin Brock, aspiring professional actor and tap dancer, is not your average heavyweight contender. At 6'2" and 218 pounds, the clean shaven 1999 UNC Charlotte alumnus looks and speaks more like the banker he was, than the fighter he is. But with a 25-0 record, 20 of them KOs, he's proven that he's more than average in the ring.

On April 23, Brock won the biggest match of his career to-date against two-time world title challenger Jameel McCline at Caesars in Las Vegas. The heavyweight match was ESPN's first pay-per-view boxing event, and the unanimous 10-round decision against McCline helped Brock move closer to a world heavyweight title match.

"If I win this match," Brock said shortly before the bout. "It will rank me in the top 10 and line me up for a title shot to become the heavyweight champion of the world. It's something I've been waiting for all my life."

The "Boxing Banker," as Brock is known, was 8 years old when he got his first pair of boxing gloves. He knew then he would become a professional heavyweight boxer.

In the ring, Brock's strong faith in Christianity is as much a part of his routine as his fancy footwork and brutal knockouts.

"Faith has allowed me to be successful," Brock said. "I get invites to speak at various churches and schools, and that opens up the door for me to give God the glory and the purpose he has for me."

Brock has no problem sharing his Christian beliefs, which he credits for his recent successes. He hopes he can be an example to others through the exposure he gets as a boxer.

Since he put on that first set of gloves two decades ago, Brock, now 30, has not deviated from his dream to become the heavyweight champion of the world. However, his parents, who support his quest, asked him to table those plans temporarily to pursue a degree.

"Both my parents have degrees. They always said, 'We want you to be heavyweight champion, but we also want you to get your education,'" Brock remembered. "I want to be able to tell kids to get an education, so I had to get mine. I'm a living witness that you can earn a degree and live out your dreams no matter what they are."

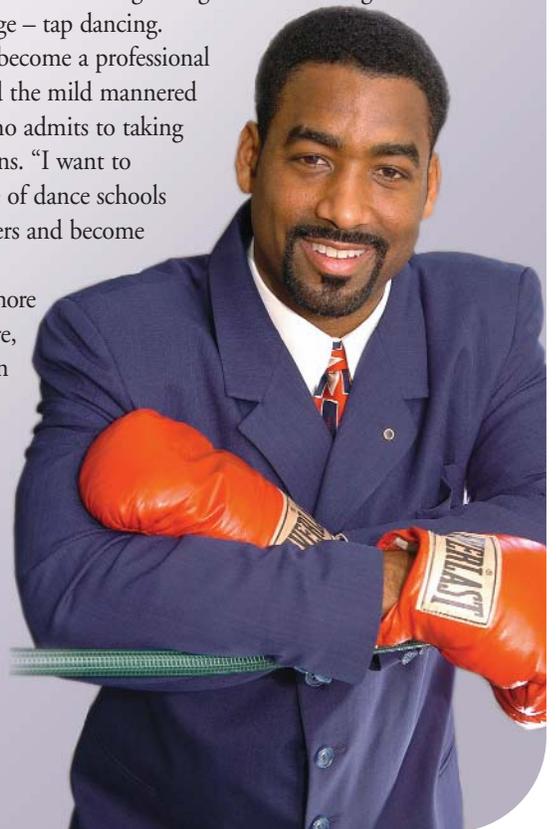
After graduating from West Charlotte High School, Brock entered UNC Charlotte and earned a degree in business administration and finance. Shortly after, he landed a job in the operations department at Bank of America as a call analyst. During that time, Brock himself received a call of a lifetime – the chance to train for the 2000 Olympics in Sydney, Australia, where he earned a super heavyweight spot on the U.S. Olympics Boxing Team. Although Brock didn't bring home a medal, he says he will always cherish the experience.

Now that he has earned a degree and is closer to a boxing championship, Brock is setting his sights on mastering another physical challenge – tap dancing.

"I want to become a professional tap dancer," said the mild mannered heavyweight, who admits to taking private tap lessons. "I want to open a franchise of dance schools and fitness centers and become an actor, too."

But in his more immediate future, Brock will return to Charlotte, where he will marry Yolanda Warren, a Duke University law student, later this summer.

– *Natasha Ashe-Suber*



Denise Altman '89 has written a book, *22 Reasons Employees HATE their Jobs...and what companies can do about it*, which was released in April. In her book, she explores the complaints she most often hears from employees about their jobs and makes suggestions companies can use to keep people engaged. Denise is the president of Altman Initiative Group, Inc., a behavioral and strategic consulting firm in Matthews, and frequently speaks at conferences nationwide on hiring, employee retention, communication and leadership.

Diane Raby '89 is serving as the president of the Charlotte Jaycees for 2005. Diane resides in Charlotte and works for ABM Janitorial Services as the bank services manager.

Marriages

Katherine Hill '89, '91 M.Ed. married Wayne Oppel on Dec. 17, 2004. Katherine serves as coordinator of continuing education programs at Guilford Technical Community College. She earned her second-degree black

belt in Gensei-Ryu karate and teaches at High Point University. In addition, Katherine is a member of the Daughter's of the American Revolution and is serving as registrar for 2005-2006. Katherine and Wayne reside in Winston-Salem.

Deaths

David Wilhelm '86 died March 12, 2005, in Atlanta. He was assistant director of homeland security with the Atlanta office. David was second-in-command at the U.S.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Atlanta office. He remodeled and built homes in his free time and was a member of Selwyn Presbyterian Church in Charlotte. David is survived by his wife, Candee Wilhelm in Concord.

1990s

Steve Gardner '90, '92 M.S.E.E. was appointed to a one-year term as chair of the Intellectual Property Section of the North Carolina Bar Association. Steve has spoken at seminars throughout the country on patent litigation, patent prosecution and other topics. He has published more than 40 articles on patent law, trademark law, litigation and other subjects. After earning his bachelor's and master's degrees at UNC Charlotte with Phi Kappa Phi and Tau Beta Pi distinction, he earned his law degree from Wake Forest with honors, where he was editor-in-chief of the law review. Steve is married to **Tracey Andrews Gardner '92** and they make their home in Winston-Salem.

Susan Oswalt '90, '97 M.S.N. accepted a position as director of women's services at Beebe Medical Center in Lewes, Del., where she makes her home.

Bill Parson '90 has been promoted to product engineering manager at Scott Health & Safety in Monroe. Bill lives in Indian Trail with his wife, **Teresa Moreau Parson, '90**, and children, Jacob, 8, and Emma, 5.

Kyle Barnes '91 works as a regional administrator for RHA Health Services of North Carolina. In 2004, he completed his doctorate in psychology. Kyle and his wife, Amy, live in Belmont.

Janice Challis '92 has been promoted from director of application development to the newly created position of director of technology architecture and services at Food Lion. Janice has climbed the Food Lion ladder, starting out as a part-time cashier in 1976. She and her daughter, Paige, make their home in Salisbury.

Eric Weisenhorn '92 has been promoted to vice president for LCI Corporation. Eric joined the company in 1992 as a design engineer and has most recently served as

manager of AfterMarket Products. He makes his home in Gastonia.

Steve Weller '92 teaches English as a second language in the Sarasota Public Schools. He also works at the Sarasota Convention & Visitors Bureau. Steve mentors through Big Brothers/Big Sisters in Sarasota, Fla., where he resides.

Craig Hamlin '93 was called to pastor Fairview Baptist Church in Apex after a unanimous vote. He completed his Master of Divinity degree with biblical languages from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, in 1996 and is currently enrolled pursuing a Doctor of Ministry degree there. He and his wife, Jennifer, have a daughter, Abigail, who is 2.

Jason Pelusio '94 set off for New York City in 1995. Now, he is touring the country with "The Producers" as associate company manager with Richard Frankel Productions. Jason handles business matters, union dues, benefits and makes travel arrangements.

Scott Teague '94 was named Basic Law Enforcement Training School director/criminal justice instructor at Forsyth Tech Community College in Winston-Salem. Scott will oversee the school's day-to-day operations and teach classes in the criminal justice technology and criminal justice/latent evidence technology in the associate degree programs. Scott is a reserve police officer with the Statesville Police Department where he was a full-time officer until assuming his new duties at Forsyth Tech.

Jack Barnes BA '94, '95 B Arch. has opened an architecture and design firm, Jack Barnes Architect in Portland, Ore.

Carol Creech '94 has joined the Southwest Indiana Regional Council on Aging as a case manager. She previously was employed by the Stanly County Department of Social Services in Albemarle. Carol and her husband, Ted, live in Newburgh, Ind.

Jason Saine '95, publisher of the Lincoln Tribune and president of Tech 5 Corp. in Lincoln, also is a volunteer firefighter. He and his wife, **Kathryn Hayes Saine '96**, make their home in Denver.

Yvonne G.G. Howell '96 has joined SEPI Engineering Group as project manager in the firm's Environmental Division. Yvonne has extensive experience in compiling

National Environmental and Planning Agency environmental documents, including community impact assessments and indirect and cumulative analyses, as well as public involvement services such as developing meetings, workshops and hearings. She makes her home in Raleigh.

Spence Huffstetler '96 is an account executive with Converge, a global electronics distributor out of Boston, Mass. Spence and his wife, Kelly, have a daughter, Elizabeth, who is 2 years old. The Huffstetlers live in Raleigh.

Mark D'Amico '97 earned his Ph.D. at UNC Greensboro in 2004. Mark's wife, **Leigh Kale D'Amico '99**, is working on her Ed.D. at the University of South Carolina. The couple lives in Columbia, S.C.

Christine Bui '98 has recently relocated to Kitty Hawk from Charlotte where she has joined Advanced Chiropractic P.C. Christine provides health care for the long-term correction of injuries. After graduating from UNC Charlotte, she continued her education at Life University in Atlanta where she graduated cum laude with a doctorate in chiropractic. While practicing in Charlotte, she was the team chiropractor for several NASCAR teams, including Joe Gibbs, Ultra, Haas and Bace Motorsports.

Eric Davis '98 has joined the WTVI team as production manager, bringing more than 16 years of broadcast experience in management, production and sales. Prior to joining WTVI full-time, Eric was an independent producer in charge of the research, concept and theme development, fundraising, writing and production behind the station's documentaries. He will be responsible for overseeing WTVI's production projects, which include local programs, new productions and on-air Pledge drive.

Timothy Austin '99 has been named senior personal trust specialist in BB&T's Wealth Management Division. Timothy is a member of the Winston-Salem Estate Planning Council, Institute of Certified Bankers and American Bankers Association.

Drue Garrison '99, who recently became a Certified Financial Planner, is working with Hinrichs Flanagan Financial in Charlotte, where he resides.

HARDIN MINOR'S EXPRESSION IS HIS BUSINESS

When Hardin Minor '79 looks in a mirror, any one of the 30 characters he portrays might be gazing back. As a professional mime, dancer and entertainer, he often jokes that his wife "never knows who's coming home at night."

"I'm so lucky that she completely understands my "Peter Pan" and allows me to fly free to create and play with ideas no matter how crazy," he said.

Whether he's hired to dress in a diaper and shriek when community meeting participants speak too long or don the "Captain Clean Air" persona for the Charlotte Area Transit System, the Charlotte native said he likes reinventing himself.

"What I do is not as easy as it looks," Minor pointed out. "I've often thought that the only thing in life of which I am afraid, is waking one morning and not being able to think of one creative idea."

Beyond the make up and flamboyant costumes, there's a serious side to Minor. As effortlessly as he portrays his fictional characters, "Banana Claus," "Major Minor" or the "Ballet Gourmet," he can just as passionately tackle what he perceives as

social injustices for the under-represented.

"I believe democracy allows us to grow, and we all deserve that," said Minor, who says he was jailed briefly in 1971 for his participation in a civil rights protest.

Minor admits during those days, his advocacy came before education. He withdrew from UNC Chapel Hill, returned to Charlotte and began work as a custodian at then Queens College. One day, some female students invited him to join them in a dance class.

"It brought everything together for me. Dance demands emotion, physicality, spirituality and imagination, all the things that make me who I am," he said. "Back then, I realized I was seeking goals of justice and peace in our society. Almost by accident, I found myself redirecting my energies to express my views artistically."

Three years later, Minor enrolled at UNC Charlotte, where as a creative arts major and education minor he received both inspiration and a vocation.

Through dance and drama, Minor said he recognized his ability to make people laugh at themselves while they laugh at him.

The arts became his life and he advocated fiercely for it. He aided the movement to open Spirit Square and developed the New Reflections Dance Theatre, where he was one of the original dancers. In 1978, he and UNC Charlotte theatre major Eddie Williams founded Charlotte's OMIMEO Mime Theatre.

But Minor didn't stop there.

He became the first male certified to teach dance as an art form in North Carolina. He trained as a modern dancer and took ballet. Minor also became interested in jazz, tap and hip hop while in New York from 1980 to 1986. He studied with choreographers Twyla Tharp, Michael Moschen and Jacques D'Amboise. He has become well-known and well-respected for his craft throughout the country. He has worked in Orlando, Las Vegas, New York and even Austria, but always returned to Charlotte, home to his alma mater, where he also performs whenever possible.

Whether portraying a rock star or one of many fictional characters, one thing is certain: Minor has found his purpose and is most comfortable in his own skin.

— *Natasha Ashe-Suber*

During UNC Charlotte's 2005 Spring Dance Concert, Minor choreographed a tribute to rocker David Bowie, "GLAMERICA: a United State of Mind."



2000s

Brett Keeter '99 is working as regional director for U.S. Rep. Patrick McHenry. Brett will oversee the congressman's office in Shelby and will serve the five southern counties of the 10th congressional district. Last year, Brett served as communications director for McHenry's campaign and was campaign manager for his successful campaign for the N.C. House two years earlier. Brett lives in Mount Holly.

Debbie Latiolais '99 has joined the accounting firm of Ivester & Ladd, Certified Public Accountants. Debbie was formerly with Ernst & Young in Charlotte. She makes her home in Denver.

Marriages

Wukari Hathaway '96 married Thurman Lee on May 1, 2004. Wukari is a rehabilitation therapist for Carolinas Healthcare System. The couple lives in Indian Trail.

Melanie Lawing '97 married **Stewart Moore '00** in Montego Bay, Jamaica, on Feb. 19, 2005. Melanie is employed at Bank of America as a performance consultant for the Asset Based Lending Group. Stewart, who was a member of the UNC Charlotte golf team, is a professional golfer playing on the Tarheel Tour. Melanie and Stewart reside in Charlotte.

Births

Angela Leann Graden '92 and **Todd Campbell Graden '93** proudly announce the birth of their son, Landon Campbell Graden, on Jan. 6, 2005. The Graden's have another son, Noah Allen Graden, 3. Todd is a Software Support Manager at PPMC in Charlotte, and Angela is the manager of school-based services at The Family Center in Charlotte. The family makes their home in Stanley.

Joy Pippin Rosser '90 and her husband, Jim, announce the birth of their daughter, Katharine Noelle Rosser on March 20, 2004. The family lives in Greensboro.

Marla Berson Sherrill '93 and **Stan Sherrill '92** would like to announce the birth of their second child, daughter, Emma Kate Sherrill, born on Jan. 16, 2005. Now residing in Charlotte, Stan is a partner with Littler Mendelson, LLC, a national labor and employment law firm. Marla is a stay-at-home mom.

Chiffie T. Tomlin, Jr '93 and **Jacqueline R. Moore-Tomlin '97** are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Nya Ariana Tomlin, on March 7, 2005. The Tomlins live in Charlotte.

Susan Gogick Gruchacz '94, '96 M.A. and her husband, Brian, proudly announce the birth of their daughter, Elizabeth Paige Gruchacz, on July 28, 2004 in Overland Park, Kan. Susan is a stay-at-home mom. The family lives in Leavenworth, Kan.

Lisa Kidd '95 and her husband, Daryl, are proud parents of their second child, Luke Ryan Kidd. Luke was born on March 8, 2005. Morgan Ashley Kidd, 3, welcomed her brother into the family. Lisa is a client executive with Avaya Communication. The family lives in Lake Wylie, S.C.

Kelley McHenry McCarey '95 and her husband, Matt, are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Ryan Kenneth McCarey, on March 1, 2005, in Charlotte. Kelley has recently accepted a new position as project manager with Commercial Movers, a turn-key relocation company that has been in Charlotte since 1998. The McCareys reside in Charlotte.

John Conrad '96 and his wife, **Christy Shive Conrad '95**, had their 3rd child, Emily Kate Conrad, on April 28, 2004. Emily has twin siblings Ben and Brooke, who are now 4. John is construction equipment manager at D.H. Griffin Wrecking Systems, and Christy is a busy full-time mom. The family lives in Winston-Salem.

Deaths

Myron "Mud Dog" Hipps '94 of Belmont died unexpectedly of a heart attack on April 22, 2005. Myron was a devoted father to his two sons, Jacob, 4, and Joshua, 2, and loving husband to his wife, Katie. An avid outdoorsman, Myron loved to hike, fish and camp and was a strong advocate of the Nature Conservancy and friend of the Gaston County Humane Society. He was a good friend to all who knew him. Myron served in the military from 1987-1995 as a combat engineer for the U.S. Army in A Company 391st Engineer Battalion out of Asheville. He was a member of the Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity at UNC Charlotte. Myron was employed by Wachovia Bank as a senior network engineer.

Kevin Druckenbrod '00, a 10-year veteran of the radio promotions industry, has joined Lowe's Motor Speedway's marketing and public relations department as a communications specialist. In his new position, Kevin will spearhead the speedway's electronic marketing; execute on- and off-site promotions with advertising partners; and manage the speedway's Web site. He resides in Huntersville.

Charles Westmoreland '00 M.A., a graduate student in history at Ole Miss, gave a lecture in May on Archie Manning, a sports icon and role model. Charles played sports as a child and a love of sports history was instilled in him by his father.

Sirpa Whitman '01 has been working for the Department of Corrections in Umatilla, Ore., for the last three years as a contractor with Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton, Ore. She has been providing education services for the inmates of the Two Rivers Correctional Institution. She would love to hear from former Master of Public Administration degreed classmates and instructors.

Gerren Willis '02, a Gaston County police officer, had a busy week earlier this year. He saved two lives. Gerren arrived ahead of EMS and firefighters at a residence where a newborn baby had just been delivered. The baby was non-responsive, and the father had been attempting CPR. Gerren was able to clear the child's airway and revive the infant. Four days later, he assisted in rescuing a stranded motorist from a car that had been almost totally submerged upside down in water.

Paula Bishop '03 has accepted a position as an intern architect with Atelier Architects in Washington, D.C. Paula is living in Rockville, Md.

Eric Heilman '04 accepted a position as operations project manager at Choice Translating & Interpreting, Inc. a company owned by **Michelle Luhr '97**. Eric makes his home in Charlotte.

POLITICS AND BUSINESS DON'T ALWAYS MAKE STRANGE BEDFELLOWS

What do a political science, biology and business administration major have in common?

It sounds like the beginning of a joke. However, for Jason Saine '95, Jason Moir '96 and Christian Hine '99, the answer – a love of political discussions and an entrepreneurial spirit – is no joke. It's business.

As students, the three kept running into each other at Student Government Association and College Republicans' meetings. Almost a decade later, their discussions continue, but now the debates are held in a 3,000-square-foot building on the Lincolnton square. The nondescript dwelling sits adjacent to the city's courthouse, the hub of Lincoln County government. The venue is ideal for Tech5 Corp., a political consulting and Web-development business, and the Lincoln Tribune, a bi-monthly newspaper, both owned by Saine, Moir and Hine.

"It feels like we never left college...PlayStation included," said Saine, publisher of the Lincoln Tribune and president of Tech5. "We all help and feed off each other."

The ventures are a UNC Charlotte family affair. Saine's wife, Kathryn Hayes Saine '96, '00

M.S., is a columnist for the paper. UNC Charlotte rising sophomore Madeline Shoemaker and May graduate Emily Hoover serve as interns.

The partners started by constructing Web sites and servicing computer systems for local businesses. They added political consulting and communications work. Hine and Saine also hosted a Gastonia radio talk show, but felt the need to expand their reach.

In August 2004, they decided to add a newspaper to the mix. And the Lincoln Tribune was born.

"We all had written for the University Times while students and had kicked around the idea of starting a newspaper," remembered Moir, online editor of the Tribune and vice president of Tech5. "We finally made the decision when one of our clients was being abused by a local paper. We tried to work with the editor to get a balanced story. When that didn't work, we printed our own paper."

The Tribune's tagline: "Some people are just wired differently."

The owners of the newspaper assert that mantra demonstrates their goal to provide impartial and positive stories. The paper is mailed free to

3,100 homes and 2,000 are placed on racks in the Lake Norman, Denver and Lincolnton areas. The trio also takes pride in providing breaking news to online readers at www.lincolntribune.com.

"We often seek input from area churches and charitable organizations for the kinds of stories that aren't generally covered and that make people feel good and want to help," said Hines, managing editor and vice president of Tech5.

The group's strategy has proven to be a good one. A recent online poll conducted by Alexa.com ranked the Tribune's breaking news content ahead of a large Charlotte talk radio station. The owners contend they haven't missed a big story locally or nationally because of their use of the Internet. And their readership is increasing. They've lured people from across the country – and the globe – to become regular readers.

But the young entrepreneurs take their success in stride, attributing it to good partners, a good education and just being, "wired differently."

– *Natasha Ashe-Suber*



Nichole McLaughlin '04, a certified Professional in Human Resources, has been hired by the Caswell County Government as human resource officer. Nicole resides in Elon.

Marriages

Jackie Armstrong '03 and Jon Miller '03 were married on April 9, 2005. Jackie is a transportation engineer I in the Roadway Design Unit of the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), and Jon is a pavement design engineer for the Pavement Management Unit of NCDOT. The couple lives in Raleigh.

Corinne Brown '03 married Chris Martin April 3, 2004, in Charlotte. Corinne has been promoted to VIP manager, one of the highest levels in the Tupperware Company. She was given the opportunity to be a Tupperware Ambassador – one of only two in the country. She also attended a fundraiser for Boys and Girls Club of Mt. Vernon, N.Y., at Denzel Washington and Lenny Kravitz's club, Kos. The Martins make their home in Charlotte.

Holly Bradham '03 married Jeremy Andler '03 on Dec. 11, 2004. They make their home in Charlotte, where Holly is a special education teacher with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, and Jeremy is a business analyst with Bank of America.

Kimberly Barlowe '04 was married June 12, 2004, to Chad Watkins. She is a pre-kindergarten teacher with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools in Starmount Pre-K Center. The Watkinses live in Pineville.

Bonnie Nixon '04 married Michael Bradley '99 in Mt. Holly on March 3, 2005. Bonnie is a teacher at Kiser Elementary School, and Michael is owner and operator of Plantation Lawn and Landscape. The couple makes their home in Stanley.

Births

Tommy Conder '01 and his wife, Andrea, are proud to announce the birth of their son, Thomas E. Conder, III, on Feb. 17, 2005. Sister Emma Layne Conder welcomed him into the family. Tommy is pastor of Harmony United Methodist Church and the family lives in Landis.

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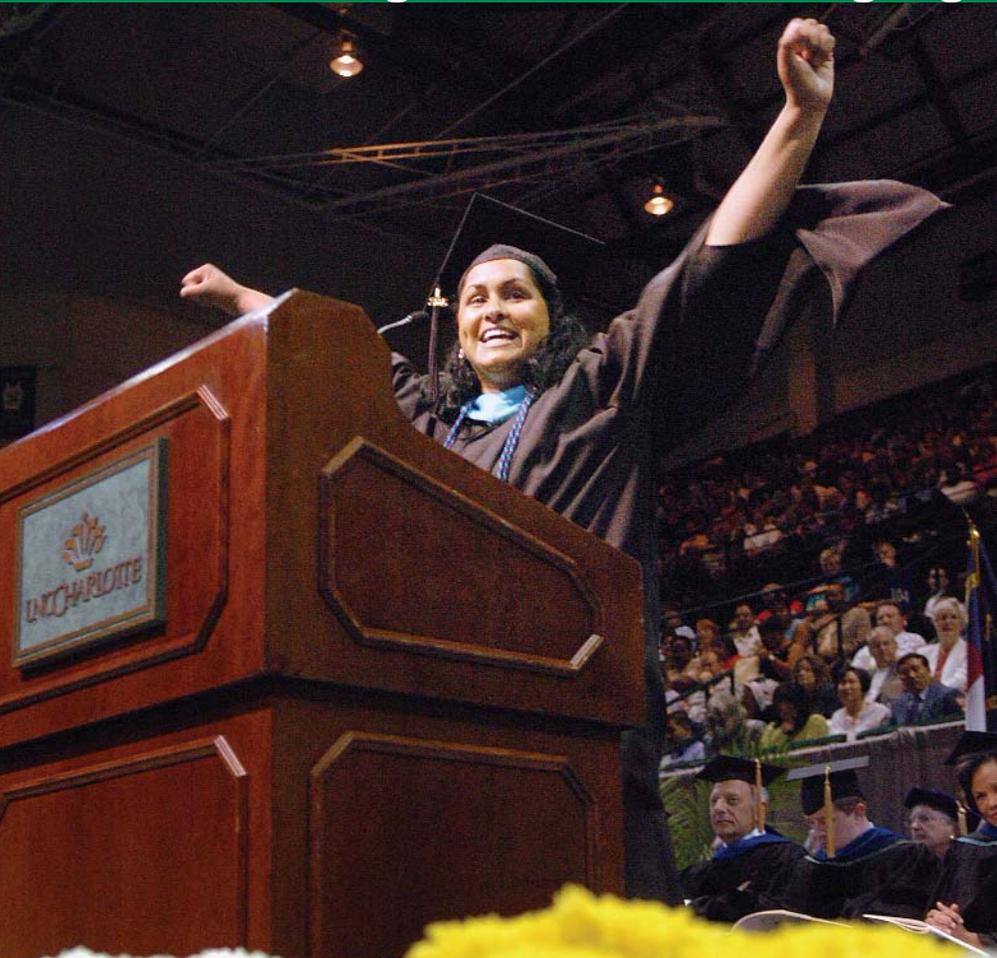
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